

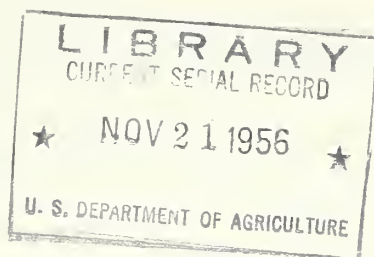
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FAS-M-12

October 1956



Notes on

**THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIES
OF 23 FAR EASTERN
AND SOUTH PACIFIC COUNTRIES**

**Foreign Agricultural Service
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Notes on
THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIES OF
23 FAR EASTERN AND SOUTH PACIFIC COUNTRIES

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A F G H A N I S T A N

Area: Afghanistan, a completely landlocked country, is bounded on the north by the U. S. S. R. and Communist Chinese Sinkiang; on the east and south by Pakistan; and on the west by Iran. Its total area has never been definitely established but is estimated at more than 246,000 square miles (about the size of the State of Texas).

Population: The country's population is estimated at 10 million. Almost all are Moslems. Approximately 70 percent are engaged in farming; another 25 percent are nomads who spend the fall and winter in the lower valleys and move to high pasturelands in the spring; and 5 percent, who live in the larger towns, are shopkeepers, traders, artisans, and civil servants. Per capita income is estimated at under \$50 per year.

Acreage Under Cultivation: Only about three percent of Afghanistan's total acreage is cultivated. Three-fourths of the cultivated area is in the Valley of the Oxus River in the north near the U. S. S. R. border. However, the most productive agricultural land is in the east central part of the country between Kabul and the Pakistan border. In the southwest the Helmand River supplies water to fertile lands whose arability is now being extended by large development projects.

Principal Agricultural Products: The variety of climate and elevation permit cultivation of both temperate and tropical zone products. Wheat is the most important crop and an estimated 1.25 million acres are sown annually with a resultant harvest of some two million tons. Afghanistan also produces annually approximately 500,000 tons of rice, 230,000 tons of corn, and 250,000 tons of other grains. Other crops include cotton, sugar beets, tobacco, opium, castor, and sesame.

Fruit growing is important. Products include apples, pears, peaches, quinces, apricots, plums, cherries, pomegranates, figs, and many varieties of grapes and melons. A variety of nuts (principally almonds, pistachios, and walnuts), and vegetables are produced.

The principal livestock raised are karakul sheep, fat-tailed sheep, goats, horses, cows, oxen, camels, donkeys, chickens and ducks. The annual production of karakul skins is estimated at about two million, more than half of which are shipped to the United States.

Food Consumption: Most of the population depend on wheat for their daily sustenance. While there are a relatively few areas where broad beans or mulberries form the basis of the diet, the majority of the people live on unleavened bread made from whole wheat flour. This is augmented by fresh fruit during the long fruit season and by rice and meat.

Foreign Trade: Afghanistan is almost completely a supplier of raw materials and a market for consumer and developmental goods. Principal exports are karakul skins, fruits and nuts, raw wool, and cotton. It is estimated that from one-half to three-fourths of all raw wool and cotton exports go to the Soviet Union; almost all the fruits, nuts, and vegetables to India and Pakistan; and the largest part of the karakul exports to the United States.

United States--Afghanistan Trade, 1955

U. S. Exports to Afghanistan

U. S. Imports from Afghanistan

-----1,000 Dollars-----

Total All Commodities	4,472
Total Agricultural	39
Veg. & juices canned	6
Dairy products	10
Meats	7
Orange juice canned	3
Other Agricultural	13

Total All Commodities	13,925
Total Agricultural	2,592
Wool	2,441
Other Agricultural	151

A U S T R A L I A

Farm Population: Total population 9.2 million (1955). As of 1954 approximately 15 percent of total working force of 3.7 million engaged in agriculture. Twenty-one percent of total population resides in rural areas.

Land Use: Total area 2,974,581 square miles or just slightly less than the area of the United States. Crop land including fallow area estimated at 1.5 percent of total area; cultivated pastures, 1 percent; permanent pastures, 47 percent; forest and bush lands, 5 percent; desert and wastelands 34 percent; other, 11.5 percent.

Type of Agriculture and Principal Agricultural Products: World's largest producer of sheep and wool; fourth largest producer of wheat and also noted for production of meats, fruits, vegetables, grains (other than wheat), dairy products and sugar. Farms tend to be large, averaging about 300 acres, with over fifty percent of the sheep concentrated on ranches of about 2,500 acres in size.

Food Consumption Levels: Total per capita food consumption--about 7 percent above prewar or more than 3,300 calories per day, per person. Cereals, dairy products and meat made up almost 60 percent of the diet on a caloric basis in 1953-54.

Economic Situation: Population increased by one-third since prewar. Full employment, high wages, high rates of industrial and agricultural growth, and large-scale development programs have resulted in inflationary conditions and serious balance of payments difficulties since 1953, necessitating some domestic curbs on capital investment, increased interest rates and tightening of import restrictions in 1955-56.

Agricultural Policy: A five-year production program adopted in 1952 has already resulted in an estimated 31 percent increase in volume of production at the end of 1955-56 as compared to prewar. Goal target set in 1952 for the end of 1956-57 was a 27 percent increase. As far back as the 1920s, the Government maintained guaranteed minimum price programs to assist farmers in the marketing of their products. The chief ones in effect today are for wheat and dairy products and a contemplated plan for dried fruits. With the exception of wool which is sold at auction, all primary agricultural commodities are marketed through commodity boards, particularly for export. Agricultural programs of assistance to farmers are maintained particularly to encourage production of livestock and meat, tobacco, and cotton. An important new development program is a 500,000 acre rice project in the Northern Territory.

Dependence on Agricultural Imports: Dependent on imports of tropical food-stuffs, namely, cocoa, coffee, and tea; raw materials such as cotton, tobacco, rubber, turpentine and rosin, hog casings, fibers, hops and timber.

Trade: Foreign export trade highly dependent on agricultural commodities. Approximately 85 percent of total export revenue derived from farm products, with wool accounting for fifty percent of total export earnings. Important exporter of wheat and flour, meat, dairy products, fruit, and sugar. The bulk of meat exports are directed to U. K. under the provisions of a fifteen-year meat agreement effective until 1967. Maintains strong trade ties with United Kingdom and other Commonwealth nations as result of membership in Commonwealth and Sterling Bloc. Has current bilateral trade arrangements with West Germany, Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland involving numerous agricultural export items.

Quantitative Controls Applicable to U. S. Agricultural Products: Subject to stringent import licensing and quota policy imposed in 1951-52 and continued in 1955-56. In late years restrictions have been imposed on imports from both sterling and non-sterling areas. Import licensing has been a regulatory feature of Australian import trade since prewar. Preferential tariff treatment, an outgrowth of Ottawa Agreements in 1932, has been extended to Commonwealth countries on many items, chiefly manufactures, which are also subject to high tariffs protective of domestic industry. Preferences maintained on agricultural products are not too discriminatory against agricultural products from non-Commonwealth sources, except tobacco imports from the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland which enjoy special duties under a special trade agreement with Australia.

United States--Australian Trade, 1955

U. S. Exports to Australia

U. S. Imports from Australia

-----Million Dollars-----

Cattle for breeding	.2	Meat	1.8
Cotton, raw	7.2	Sausage casings	1.7
Hops	.1	Casein	.8
Seeds, field and garden	.2	Hides and skins	1.1
Tobacco, unmanufactured	24.2	Wool	64.4
Other	4.3	Seeds, exc. oilseeds	.8
		Other	3.2
Total agricultural	<u>36.2</u>	Total agricultural	<u>73.8</u>
Other	<u>164.8</u>	Other	<u>52.5</u>
Grand total	201.0	Grand total	126.3

B U R M A

Farm Population: About three-fourths of a total population of 19 million.
Consumption level is about 2,200 calories per person per day.

Land Use: Total area -- 261,789 square miles, almost the size of Texas.

Cropland in use	-- 25,648 square miles or 10 percent of total area.
Cropland in fallow	-- 9,131 square miles, or 3 percent of total area.
Forest area	-- 151,800 square miles, or 58 percent of total area.
Wasteland and other	-- 75,210 square miles, or 29 percent of total area.

Type of Agriculture: Approximately 62 percent of total cropland is planted in rice.

Lower Burma -- Wet cultivation predominates. This occurs before and shortly after the rainy season. Rice is the main crop. Tenancy and indebtedness were high in this area but since the war the Government has taken over land held by absentee landlords and former tenants have remained on the land.

The Dry Zone -- Dry cultivation predominates but is practiced side by side with irrigated and kaing methods. Dry cultivation is characterized by shortage of water, mixed planting, crop rotation, the fallowing of fields after two to five years of cultivation, and plowing the fields soon after harvest and leaving them unsown until the subsequent rainy season. Kaing cultivation utilizes the silt which forms along the river banks. Farming is diversified with less reliance upon a single crop.

The Mountain Regions -- Wet cultivation is practiced in the valleys and taungya cultivation on the hillsides. The latter involves planting in the ashes of burned forests along the hillsides without removal of tree stumps. Most of Burma's bread-type wheat is produced in these regions along with potatoes, tea, oranges, garlic, and ginger.

Northern Burma Wet Zone -- Wet cultivation and kaing methods are used. A small surplus of rice is produced.

Burmese farmers employ primitive farming practices with resultant low yields.

Principal Agricultural Products: Rice is by far the main crop. Wheat, pulses, potatoes, peanuts, sesame, cotton, jute, corn, millet, fruits, vegetables, cane and palm sugar, rubber, and tobacco are crops of some importance.

Degree of Self-Sufficiency in Food: Burma produces a large surplus of rice for export and is self-sufficient in most other foods. However, vegetable oils, dairy products, fishery products, along with sugar and sugar products are supplemented by imports.

Agricultural Policy: Burma is striving for self-sufficiency in the production of such crops as cotton, sugar, jute, tobacco, and oilseeds, while at the same time attempting to increase production and improve the quality of the rice crop in order to make it more competitive in the export market. The Government has recently adopted a more realistic rice pricing policy which has resulted in a substantial reduction in the burdensome rice surplus.

Steps have been taken to make agricultural credit available to farmers in order to eliminate usurious money lending practices which have kept farmers constantly in debt. Although land nationalization legislation has been enacted, relatively little has been done to implement it. The legislation calls for a redistribution of large areas of land formerly owned by landlords and would establish cooperative farms. At the present time former tenants are cultivating this land and may be permitted to retain the land permanently.

Agricultural Trade: Rice has accounted for 85 percent of Burma's agricultural exports and for more than three-fourths of total exports in recent years. Other agricultural exports include raw cotton, pulses, and timber products. Principal agricultural imports are cotton piece goods, yarn and thread, bags and sacks, coconut oil, dairy products, wheat flour, fish products, and sugar. There has been very little trade in agricultural products between Burma and the U. S., but in February 1956 a \$21.7 million P. L. 480 agreement was signed with Burma, which included cotton for processing in third countries, dairy products, tobacco, and fruits.

United States--Burma Trade in Agricultural Products, 1955

<u>U. S. Exports to Burma</u>		<u>U. S. Imports from Burma</u>	
-----1,000 Dollars-----			
Non-fat dry milk solids	121	Raw cotton	84
Other	55	Other	21
Total agricultural	176	Total agricultural	105
Total all commodities	4,434	Total all commodities	1,350

C A M B O D I A

Population: Most recent estimates place the 1955 population at 4,400,000, about 40 percent of which is Cambodian. The remaining population is probably half Chinese and half Vietnamese. Roughly 80 percent of the population is engaged in agriculture, the economy being based almost entirely upon the production of agricultural products and fish. There is no overpopulation problem and Cambodia enjoys the advantage that a relatively large portion of the land is arable. The average life expectancy is about 30 years and the literacy rate is approximately 15 percent.

Land Use: Cambodia has an area of 43 million acres, about three-fourths of which is covered by forest. Approximately 4 million acres are devoted to agriculture and the remainder, except for the small part occupied by cities and villages, is wasteland and jungle. During the period of general insecurity in the country following 1946, large areas of land were abandoned and the production of crops was greatly reduced. It is estimated that over 740,000 acres of rice lands once cultivated are now idle. The agricultural land per capita is about 3.1 acres.

Principal Products: About 85 percent of the cultivated land is normally planted to rice. Nearly all rice agriculture is carried on by peasants but there are a small number of French-owned plantations. Rubber was introduced by the French and production has increased substantially in the past few years. Corn, the only other grain of significance, is of two varieties, white for domestic consumption and red for export. Corn production has decreased substantially in recent years. In addition, small quantities of sugar, cotton, spices, oilseeds, tobacco, coffee, cocoa, and fibers are grown. One of the principal sources of income of Cambodia is cattle breeding. Leather is used in local consumption and untreated skins are one of the most important export items.

Degree of Self-Sufficiency: The fertility of the alluvial soils makes it easy for the peasant to grow enough rice during six months of the year to supply him and his family for the remainder of the year. The rice irrigation waters of Cambodia also make it comparatively easy to raise fish, the other component of their basic rice and fish diet.

Large-scale industry is virtually nonexistent, however there are small-scale industries which process agricultural products. There are a few rice mills, distilleries, rubber mills, brick factories, etc.

Agricultural Policy: The year 1955 marked the beginning of Cambodian existence as an independent economy and the dissolution of economic ties with France, Laos, and Vietnam. The Cambodian Government acted swiftly to change the pattern of trade by prohibiting the exportation of products to Vietnam which were normally not consumed in that country but reexported in an attempt to shift this trade into the hands of Cambodian traders.

Agricultural Policy continued

Aimed at providing a strong foreign currency, the Bank of Cambodia imposed tight controls on foreign exchange transactions. Much of the aid to farmers has been provided by United States programs. Some flood control, irrigation and drainage projects have been completed. External aid has been making possible road repair, maintenance and repair of airports, experimental use of modern machinery, etc. Major projects under consideration include development of a seaport at Ream and improvement of port facilities at Phnom Penh.

Trade: Much of Cambodia's trade is routed through Vietnam and total trade, excluding this trade through Vietnam, is not large. Exports exceed imports, with about half of the imports coming from France, and more than half of the exports going to nearby Asian countries. The major imports are yarn and textiles, petroleum products, vegetable products, scientific and precision equipment, and machinery. The principal exports are rice, rubber, animal products, fats and oils, woods, and skins.

Trade data of Cambodia with the United States is recorded with data for the Indo-China Customs' Union and direct trade data between the two countries is not available. However, the major U. S. exports to this area are automobiles, parts and accessories, yarn and textiles, tobacco, and electrical products. Major imports from the area consist of rubber and spices.

C E Y L O N

Population: Of the population of 8.6 million, about 85 percent live in rural areas. The consumption level is about 2,100 calories per person per day.

Land Use: Total land area is about 25,000 square miles (slightly larger than West Virginia). About 22 percent of the total is developed for agriculture and it is estimated that an additional 20 percent could be developed for agriculture. Forests cover about 23 percent of the land surface.

Type of Agriculture: Ceylon's agriculture is concentrated in the southwestern part of the island and is dominated by three export crops--tea, rubber, and coconuts. Tea and rubber are produced principally on estates in the higher lands of the Southwest, while coconuts are produced in the lower lands of the wet zone. Rice is the important subsistence crop grown both in the wet zone and under irrigation in the dry zone in the north central part of the Island. Both coconuts and rice are produced largely on small holdings. There is very little livestock production except cattle for draft purposes.

Most of the estates are managed by European companies and are efficiently operated. The peasant agriculture, on the other hand, is rather inefficient, partly because fragmentation has reduced the size of holdings to less than economic units.

Principal Agricultural Products: The most important crop in Ceylon is tea and Ceylon's tea production accounts for about one-fourth of the world's output. Rubber is produced on about 660,000 acres and is second only to tea in value. About 1 million acres are devoted to coconuts and rice is produced on more than 1.2 million acres. Much of the rice and other food crops which include various millets, corn, pulses, cassava and vegetables are grown under double cropping.

Degree of Self-Sufficiency in Food: Because Ceylon's agriculture is oriented toward the production of commercial crops for export, a large part of the Island's food requirements must be imported. About half of the rice requirements, all the wheat flour and sugar, and almost all the dairy products consumed are imported. Ceylon is self-sufficient in vegetable oils and in most vegetables and fruits but imports substantial quantities of onions, potatoes, seasoning, pulses, and fish.

Agricultural Policy: The principal aims of Ceylon's agricultural policy are to increase domestic food production through developing large areas of presently uncultivated land, and by increasing food production on land already in cultivation, and to improve the output of the main export crops--tea, rubber, and coconuts. The Government is promoting a number of land irrigation, reclamation, and resettlement schemes in an effort to increase the Island's food production. Farmers are also being encouraged to adopt

improved cultural practices through an Islandwide network of cooperative agricultural production and sales societies and a program of guaranteed prices. A rubber replanting program using high-yielding varieties is under way and a coconut research and rehabilitation scheme is being launched.

Efforts are being made to promote various cottage industries, including coir-goods manufacture in an attempt to reduce unemployment and under-employment in rural areas.

Agricultural Trade: Exports of tea, rubber, and coconut products account for more than 90 percent of Ceylon's foreign exchange earnings. Most of the tea produced is sold to the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries and to the United States. Since 1952 a large part of Ceylon's rubber has been shipped to China in return for rice.

Principal agricultural imports include food products and cotton fiber and textiles. Large quantities of rice are obtained from Burma and China. Other important food imports include wheat flour, dairy products, and sugar. U. S. purchases of Ceylonese products have considerably exceeded sales to Ceylon. Small quantities of U. S. dairy products and flue-cured tobacco are shipped to Ceylon but the Commonwealth preference enables countries in the Sterling bloc to effectively compete with our agricultural imports in the market.

United States--Ceylonese Trade in Agricultural Products, 1955

<u>U. S. Exports to Ceylon</u>		<u>U. S. Imports from Ceylon</u>	
----1,000 Dollars----			
Dairy products	683	Tea	22,560
Tobacco, flue-cured	955	Rubber, crude	9,704
Other agricultural	190	Coconut, shredded, etc.	473
		Cinnamon	436
		Other agricultural	1,123
	<hr/>		
Total agricultural	1,828	Total agricultural	34,296
Total all commodities	7,134	Total all commodities	35,464

C H I N A (Mainland)

Farm Population: About 75 to 80 percent of total population, which was reported as 582.6 million by the Communist Government from a census enumeration made in 1953.

Land Use: Total area about 3.7 million square miles, or one-fifth larger than the United States. About 10 percent is in cultivation, 20 percent in poor pasture, and 10 percent in forest. The remainder consists of deserts, mountains and other wastelands. Some 15 percent of the cultivated land in North China is under irrigation; in the rice-growing regions of the South nearly 70 percent is irrigated. Multiple cropping is common practice, especially in the South.

Type of Agriculture: Traditionally subsistence farming with a large proportion of the planted area devoted to food crops. In pre-Communist days farms were to a large extent owner-operated. They averaged about 3.5 acres of cropland. After the Communists obtained control in 1949, they forced extensive land redistribution. Since then, agrarian reform has proceeded to the organization of so-called "producers' cooperatives" which, in fact, are State controlled collective farms. Livestock is relatively unimportant, though before World War II China ranked first in the number of hogs, chickens, ducks, and water buffaloes.

Principal Agricultural Products: Foodgrains are the principal crops. Rice is most important in the South; wheat, corn, barley, kaoliang, and millets in the North. Sweet potatoes are widely grown. Soybeans are important in the North. Tea and the mulberry are traditional.

Food Consumption: The Food and Agriculture Organization has estimated that prewar consumption was about 2,200 calories per person per day. Grains constitute as much as four-fifths of the diet; livestock products only 2 percent.

Trade: No official statistics are available to indicate the total foreign trade of Mainland China. From the statistics of Free World countries, it is clear that during the past few years China has exported considerable quantities of rice and soybeans. The United States has embargoed all trade with Communist China, and many other countries have embargoed certain items.

Agricultural Policy: All efforts of the Communist Government are aimed at the industrialization of China. Since the Communists took over in 1945 they have moved towards complete state control over agricultural production and marketing as a necessary part of the Communist system. Thus agriculture is forced to support, in large measure, the cost of industrial development. Export of "surplus" farm products is used to pay for needed industrial equipment and raw materials.

F I J I I S L A N D S

Total and Farm Population: Population is comprised of three main racial groups, namely, Fijians, Indians and Europeans, and was estimated at a total of 328,000 in 1954. Rural population in 1952 was estimated at about one-third of total population.

Land Use: Total area of the three hundred islands comprising Fiji is 7,022 square miles or about 90 percent of the total area of the State of New Jersey. Two of the islands, Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, occupy 88 percent of the total area. Agricultural settlement on the larger islands is confined almost entirely to the coastal plains and river valleys, the interior being rugged and mountainous. The narrow coastal regions consist of alluvial plains and mangrove swamps. The extent of land utilized for agricultural purposes is estimated at slightly more than 500,000 acres. Of this about 160,000 acres consists of permanent pasture and rough grazing land, while the remaining 340,000 acres is devoted to crop cultivation. Coconut plantations, sugarcane, and grazing lands make up about 80 percent of the agricultural area. Forests are considered outside the regular farming regions and are estimated at 2.3 million acres.

Type of Agriculture and Principal Agricultural Products: The climate is decidedly tropical and tropical cultivation prevails. With the exception of coconuts, most crops are produced on small farm tracts operated by either Fijians or Indians in conjunction with subsistence food crop production. Commodities such as bananas, sugarcane, copra, peanuts, ginger and pineapples are produced primarily for export. Food crops grown for local consumption are rice, corn, pulses, roots, and coffee. Mechanized farming has been increasing since World War II and attention is now being given to the introduction of such new crops as cocoa, pepper, and coffee for production in quantities sufficient for export. Rice and sugarcane are produced chiefly by Indians. Much of the sugarcane production is controlled by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company. Bananas and subsistence farming are pretty largely Fijian, while coconuts and copra are produced both by the Fijians and Europeans. Plantation and estate culture of coconuts is controlled by Europeans.

Food Consumption: Little statistical information is available on the overall food consumption of the population in these islands. It is known that the Indians consume all the domestic production of rice plus imported supplies, while the Fijians consume potatoes, cassava, yams and taro produced locally in small garden plots. In addition the consumption of dairy products, fish, and meats has increased since the war with a high dependence on imports for these products.

General Economic Situation: Agriculture is the major industry and the economy depends upon agricultural exports--mainly sugar, and copra or coconut oil. So far this country has been unable to maintain the volume of agricultural production for domestic consumption and exports in proportion to the rapid rise in population. As a result its foreign exchange earnings have not been sufficient during the postwar years to provide imports of foodstuffs and manufactures to satisfy the demand.

Agricultural Policy: The Government through its Department of Agriculture has adopted an overall policy of expansion of production by improving efficiency of cultivation and adoption of the best possible technical and advisory facilities. Some of the programs now operating in the fulfillment of this policy are research programs on soils and improved sugarcane, rice, banana and coconut culture. Efforts are also being made to expand livestock numbers through introduction of hardier strains of both dairy and beef cattle. Extension services are being intensified and are making valuable contributions in the introduction of such new crops as pepper and coffee for export, as well as promoting reclamation and soils conservation measures.

Dependence on Imports of Agricultural Commodities: Beside meat and dairy products, the Fiji Islands are dependent on imports of tea, flour, animal fats, fresh vegetables, pulses, coffee, spices, feedstuffs, fresh, dried and canned fruits and beer.

Trade: Over fifty percent of Fiji's exports are consigned to the United Kingdom each year with agricultural items accounting for the bulk of the trade. In addition New Zealand and Australia are also major outlets for agricultural exports, as well as the source of many imported food items. Agricultural trade between the U. S. and Fiji in late years has been relatively unimportant. All copra is marketed through a Copra Board and exports are directed to the United Kingdom at fixed export prices under the terms of a nine-year bilateral trade agreement which expires in 1957. The bulk of banana exports go to New Zealand under fixed trade commitments.

I N D I A

Area: The total land area of the Republic of India is placed at 1,285,000 square miles (including Jammu and Kashmir). The country is bordered on the northwest by Pakistan, on the northeast by Communist China and Nepal, on the southeast by the Bay of Bengal, and on the southwest by the Arabian Sea. India contains a large part of the Indo-Gangetic Plain, which extends from the Bay of Bengal to the Afghan frontier and the Arabian Sea. This Plain is the richest and most densely settled part of the Indian subcontinent, containing more than half the population. Another distinct natural region is the Deccan, a plateau of 2,000 to 3,000 feet elevation, occupying the southern or peninsular portion of the country.

Population: The 1955 population of India is roughly 375 million. An estimated 67 percent of the total depends directly upon agriculture for a livelihood. Most are small peasant farmers tilling a few acres with primitive equipment.

Acreage Under Cultivation: The total cultivated area of India is placed at nearly 280 million acres. Nearly 20 percent are irrigated. The mild climate permits double cropping on most irrigated land.

Principal Agricultural Products: Most of the cultivated area is devoted to growing foodgrains. Rice is the principal cereal, but wheat, grain sorghum, corn, etc. are of major importance in some areas. Cotton, tea, jute, and tobacco are important cash crops. Almost all known crops are grown to some extent in India.

The 1951 census showed 130.3 million cattle, 42.6 million buffalo, 40 million sheep, 47.1 million goats, and 4.2 million swine. Poultry are of only very minor importance.

Food Consumption: The per capita availability and consumption of food has increased during the past few years and on a caloric basis is now somewhere near the prewar level. This level is, however, still one of the lowest in the world. Foodgrains make up the bulk of the diet. Very little meat is consumed as a high percentage of the largely Hindu population do not eat meat on religious grounds. Food production is not sufficient to meet the requirements of the country.

Agricultural Policy: India's agricultural policy is aimed at increased agricultural production in order to attain and maintain self-sufficiency and provide a sound base for greater industrialization. Marked progress was made in increasing production under the country's First Five Year Plan (1951-56). The Second Five Year Plan (1956-61) aims at a further substantial increase in production, diversification, and improvements in quality. The goals include both increased per capita caloric consumption and dietary improvements. Per capita consumption of cotton cloth is also expected to increase. Progress is expected as the country has under way well thought out programs for expanding the availability and use of fertilizers, adoption of improved cultural practices, added irrigation facilities, land reclamation, etc.

Foreign Trade: Jute goods, tea, pepper, cotton, and tobacco are the principal exports. Foodgrains and raw cotton account for the bulk of agricultural imports. Export taxes are an important source of revenue.

United States--India Trade, 1955

United States Exports to India

United States Imports from India

-----1,000 Dollars-----

Total All Commodities	187,055	Total All Commodities	224,470
Total Agricultural	43,909	Total Agricultural	90,863
Non-fat dry milk	2,134	Hides and skins	6,295
Cotton, unmanufactured	2,997	Bristles, hoofs, horns, etc.	2,256
Rice, milled	2,354	Wool	9,082
Wheat grain	8,684	Tea	24,711
Tobacco, flue-cured	2,863	Cotton, unmanufactured	2,157
Food for relief or charity	23,737	Cashew nuts	22,088
Other agricultural	1,140	Castor oil	4,411
		Peanut oil	1,534
		Peanuts, shelled	4,801
		Pepper	6,304
		Other agricultural	7,224

I N D O N E S I A

Farm Population: About 70 percent of a population totaling some 82 million in 1955.

Land Use: Total land area 576,000 square miles. Of this total cultivated land 8 percent, forests 67 percent, remaining land 25 percent. There is a sharp contrast between Java and Madura and the Outer Islands, with 68 percent of the former islands in cultivation compared to only 4 percent of the latter, which are thinly populated and have less fertile soils.

Types of Agriculture: Outstanding feature is dual nature of Indonesia's agriculture, small scale farming carried on by natives on one hand, and large estates scientifically managed by Europeans. Estate production is almost entirely for export, while smallholders' cultivation is undertaken both for domestic consumption and export. Before the war estates supplied 60 percent of the exports and smallholders 40, but due to the present policy to force liquidation of European-owned holdings, estates produced only 30 percent of the exports by 1952 and smallholders 70 percent.

Principal Agricultural Products: Rice covers 44 percent of the cultivated area, corn 17 percent, cassava 7 percent, rubber 10 percent. Other important crops are tobacco, sugarcane, coconuts, oil palms, peanuts, soybeans, coffee, and tea.

Food Consumption Level: Slightly over 2,100 calories per capita daily, about 80 percent of which consists of grains, roots, tubers and other starches. Fairly large consumption of fruits and vegetables, but not much meat or dairy products.

Degree of Self-Sufficiency in Food: Indonesia is self-sufficient in such foods as sugar, oilseeds, fruits, vegetables, and root crops and has approached self-sufficiency in rice. However, unfavorable weather in the past two years has reduced rice production below expectations, with the result that substantial quantities have been imported and purchases will probably continue for the next few years. Other important food imports include wheat flour, dairy products, and fish.

Agricultural Policy: Since attaining independence Indonesia has been strongly nationalistic and this has been an important factor in policy decisions. The Government hopes to get agriculture, as well as trade and industry, into the hands of Indonesians as soon as possible, but a shortage of qualified leaders and a lack of investment capital are the greatest deterrents to this program. No definite policy relating to foreign owned estates has evolved and squatters are occupying estate lands in some places, while other estates are not maintaining their investment because of the uncertainty.

The Government's agricultural development program aims at increased food production for domestic use. Imports of agricultural products are restricted through import permits, exchange controls, and import surcharges, while exports of certain products are promoted by export premiums.

Agricultural Trade: In 1954 agricultural exports accounted for approximately two-thirds of total exports. Rubber is the most important export commodity, accounting for 31 percent of total foreign exchange earnings. Other important agricultural exports are copra, coffee, tea, cigar tobacco, palm oil and kernels, and spices. Principal agricultural imports are rice, wheat flour, dairy products, cotton and cotton textiles, cloves, and cigarette tobacco.

United States--Indonesian Trade 1955

U. S. Exports to Indonesia

U. S. Imports from Indonesia

-----1,000 dollars-----

Cotton, unmanufactured	3,873
Wheat flour	1,345
Tobacco, unmanufactured	5,849
Dairy products	702
Other agricultural	467
 Total agricultural	 12,236
Total all commodities	74,693

Crude rubber	146,563
Tea	8,707
Pepper	4,744
Other spices	2,430
Vegetable fibers	2,495
Tobacco, unmanufactured	1,583
Other	4,358
 Total agricultural	 170,880
Total all commodities	211,659

J A P A N

Farm Population: About 42 percent of total population of 90,000,000. Total population is increasing more than 1,000,000 per year.

Land Use: Total area 142,678 square miles, somewhat smaller than the State of Montana. Arable land constitutes about 15 percent of the total area, grazing land about 2 percent, forests 68 percent, and other land 15 percent. Planted area of crops exceeds arable area by 45 percent, indicating a high degree of double and multiple cropping. About 56 percent of the arable area is in irrigated paddy fields for production of rice. About 40 percent of the planted area is devoted to rice, nearly two-thirds to all grains, and more than 90 percent to all food crops.

Type of Agriculture: Japanese agriculture is aimed at the production of food crops for direct human consumption. Industrial crops occupy less than 5 percent of the planted area, and livestock production is relatively unimportant. Farms are exceedingly small--slightly more than two acres. They are intensively and skillfully worked to produce crop yields that not only are the highest in the Far East, but also compare favorably with the average for the United States and Europe. Hand labor methods predominate. Small power threshers are coming into increasing use, but most other farm implements are designed for hand operation or animal draft.

Principal Agricultural Products: Crops account for more than four-fifths of the agricultural income, sericulture 4 percent, and livestock 11 percent. Most important crops are rice, wheat, barley, potatoes (white and sweet), and soybeans.

Food Consumption: About 2,100 calories per capita per day--slightly below prewar. Three-fourths of the diet consists of starchy foods. Consumption of animal products is low. Fish and soybeans are the major sources of the higher quality proteins. Consumption of fruits and vegetables is limited.

Dependence on Imports of Agricultural Products: About 20 percent of Japan's food requirements are imported. Import dependence for important trade commodities varies as follows: Rice 13 percent, barley 22 percent, wheat and soybeans about 58 percent, and sugar 95 percent. All cotton and all wool requirements are imported. Less than 5 percent of the tobacco requirements are imported.

Trade: Japan ranks among the world's largest importers of agricultural products. Major agricultural imports include cotton, wool, rice, wheat, barley, soybeans, sugar, and rubber. For each of the four years 1952-1955 Japan was the heaviest foreign buyer of American farm products. The principal export items are raw silk, tea, and citrus fruits.

Agricultural Policy: Japanese agricultural policy since World War II has aimed at 80 percent self-sufficiency in food. Postwar food shortages and fears of isolation during a possible emergency have influenced the thinking behind this policy. A system of rice collection and rationing has been in force for many years. Floor prices are provided for wheat, barley, and certain other farm products. All imports are controlled by a system of licensing and foreign exchange allocation. The level of food imports is determined by the Food Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Tobacco imports are handled by the Monopoly Corporation. Tariff rates are at moderate levels for most items, and for certain major products the duties have been administratively suspended. As a result of the land reform program implemented after World War II, 88 percent of all farmers now own all or more than half of the land they cultivate compared to 56 percent prewar. And the proportion of cultivated land that is tenant operated declined from 46 to 10 percent.

United States--Japanese Trade 1955

U. S. Exports to Japan

U. S. Imports from Japan

-----million dollars-----

Wheat and wheat flour	72.4
Rice, milled	42.1
Barley	17.2
Corn	6.3
Cotton, unmanufactured	121.2
Soybeans	57.4
Tallow	16.9
Hides and skins	14.9
Tobacco	14.0
Dairy products	6.9
Other	16.8

Bristles	0.7
Silk, raw	31.9
Tea	1.2
Mandarin oranges, canned	1.7
Ajinomoto	0.7
Other	5.8

Total agricultural	386.1
Total all commodities	642.0
Percent agricultural	60.1%

Total agricultural	42.0
Total all commodities	416.0
Percent agricultural	10.1%

K O R E A (South)

Farm Population: About 70 percent of total population of 22,208,000, producing 60 percent of the total national income.

Land Use: Total area is 21,701,000 acres (33,908 square miles)--slightly larger than Maine. Of this 4,788,000 acres (22 percent) are arable land, 15,842,000 acres are forest land, and 1,071,000 acres are classified as waste or other. About 60 percent of the arable land is in irrigated paddy fields for the production of rice. Planted area in 1955 was 7,256,000 acres, or about 50 percent more than the arable area. More than one-third of the planted area is devoted to rice, three-fourths to all grains, and more than 90 percent to all food crops.

Type of Agriculture: Emphasis is on the production of food crops of which the grains are most important. Farms are very small, averaging about 2.1 acres for 2,240,000 farm households in South Korea in 1955. Hand labor methods predominate. Livestock is relatively unimportant.

Principal Agricultural Products: Rice is by far the most important single product of South Korean agriculture. Barley is much more important than wheat. Ten percent of the planted area is devoted to soybeans and other pulse crops, 7 percent to potatoes and vegetables, and 7 percent to industrial crops of which cotton, silk mulberry, and tobacco are most important.

Food Consumption: About 2,100 calories per capita per day of which 80 percent is derived from grains. Pulses and fish are the major sources of the higher quality proteins. Consumption of such protective foods as fruits, vegetables, milk, and eggs is limited.

Dependence on Imports of Agricultural Products: South Korea was a surplus food area prior to World War II. In 1949 100,000 tons of rice were available for export, but since 1950 small foodgrain imports have been the rule. Under peaceful conditions, and with normal weather and adequate fertilizer, South Korea is self-sufficient in practically all agricultural products except raw cotton and wool.

Trade: South Korea is not a large trader in the world markets for agricultural products. Most agricultural imports in recent years have come from the United States, and a large part of these have been in the form of aid. Before World War II Korea exported large quantities of rice to Japan, but no rice has been exported since 1950.

Agricultural Policy: The Government of South Korea has several programs designed to increase agricultural production, particularly the production of foodgrains. These measures include guaranteed prices, outright subsidies, and the provision of improved seeds and of fertilizers at prices below world levels. The Bureau of Food Administration is concerned with the matter of national food requirements, procurement, and distribution. It manages the grain purchase and collection programs as well as the pricing and rationing of grains. The United States has made available large sums for the rehabilitation and development of agricultural resources.

United States--Korean Trade 1955

United States Exports to Korea

United States Imports from Korea

-----million dollars-----

Cotton, unmanufactured	24.7
Non-fat dry milk	4.6
Wheat and barley	5.6
Tallow	1.5
Other	6.3

Bristles	0.7
Silk, raw	1.0
Other	-

Total agricultural	42.7
Total all commodities	126.2
Percent agricultural	33.9

Total agricultural	1.7
Total all commodities	5.1
Percent agricultural	33.4

L A O S

Population: Official estimates range from 1.5 to 3 million. About half of this sparsely settled population are Lao or Thai-Lao and half are mountain tribes of Indonesian or Chinese extraction. About 95 percent of the people are farmers producing almost everything they require. The greatest concentration of the population is in the Mekong Valley.

Land Use: Of the total land area of 91,000 square miles, approximately two-thirds or 62,000 square miles are covered by forest. Each family farms its five or so acres on a subsistence basis and spins and weaves its own textiles. Rice, the major commodity in the Lao diet, occupies roughly 1,500,000 acres.

Principal Products: Rice production in 1955-56 is estimated at about 1,100 million pounds rough rice, considerably above the previous year but still not equal to 1953-54. Corn, the second crop, is produced in much smaller quantities; and coffee, which has been one of the country's few export products, is now produced in negligible amounts on account of disease. Tobacco is grown on the upland areas, and many wild varieties of tea are grown in the mountain areas. Other agricultural products, including market garden produce, cotton, ramie, beans, potatoes, peanuts, pimento, and tung are grown in small quantities barely sufficient for local consumption. Laos is one of the principal sources of opium in Southeast Asia.

Livestock: Cattle raising has played an important role in the economy, especially in southern Laos but internal disturbances and disease have diminished numbers to about 246,000 cattle, 104,000 buffalo, and 177,400 pigs in 1953.

Degree of Self-Sufficiency: Rice production, sufficient for the needs of the Lao people in past years, is now slightly deficient, partly because of the war which lowered production and partly because of the growth of population which increased consumption. Declared rice imports were 350 and 2,650 tons in 1952 and 1953. In 1954-55 production decreased because of drought and insect damage in some Provinces.

Industrial enterprises are confined to a few transport undertakings, one or two mining operations, some saw-milling and small-scale local manufacturing. Because Laos is only slightly industrialized it must import almost all manufactured products necessary to its economy.

Agricultural Policy: Aimed at developing agriculture and cattle raising, government loans have been awarded farmers and cattle breeders. Each year a loan is accorded to the Agricultural Co-operative of the Bolovens Plateau to serve as a revolving fund for the purchase and administration of local agricultural products for the purpose of collective sales. In the field of rice cultivation, large credits are provided for the improvement of irrigation facilities.

Trade: Being a landlocked country, agricultural expansion in Laos is taking a back seat at the present time to the problem of establishing a transportation network. A new trade route through Bangkok is being developed and will cut considerably the excessive costs of trade through Saigon.

The total trade is not large. In general exports are agricultural and forest products, with green coffee, dried pimento, livestock, and tobacco as items of agricultural importance. Imports consist almost exclusively of manufactured products except in the past few years, when it has been necessary to import rice. Vietnam and Cambodia have been the major trading partners in Laos, and Thailand next most important. Much of the goods sent to Vietnam was destined for re-export and part of the imports received from Vietnam had their origin in other foreign countries.

United States-Laos trade data are not available. United States data are recorded as trade for the customs' union of the three former Indochina States. Laos made no direct shipments to the United States, and direct imports into Laos from the United States were not large. Data are not available on goods from the United States entering Laos by way of Vietnam and Cambodia.

M A L A Y A

Population: The population of the Federation of Malaya is estimated at almost 6.2 million, about 60 percent of which are engaged in or dependent upon agriculture. The population of the Island of Singapore is placed at 1.2 million, but less than 2 percent are engaged in agriculture.

Land Use: About four-fifths of the total land area of 50,700 square miles in the Federation is covered by jungle or forest, while the area cultivated for agriculture is about 18 percent of the total. Singapore is predominantly urban and only one-fourth of her 220 square miles is used for agriculture, and less than one-tenth is forested.

Type of Agriculture: About 80 percent of Malaya's cultivated acreage is devoted to the production of commercial crops for export and only 20 percent to food crop production. Rubber is produced both on large, European-managed estates and on small holdings. Oil palms are almost exclusively an estate crop, while nearly three-fourths of the coconuts are produced by small holders. The production of certain crops and types of livestock is closely associated with particular nationality groups. Examples of this are the rice crop, which is produced on small plots almost entirely by Malays, who keep cattle and oxen principally for draft purposes; the dairy cattle production largely in the hands of Indians; and the pineapple crop, as well as the pig and poultry production, which are almost exclusively in the hands of Chinese.

On Singapore Island the intensive commercial production of fresh vegetables by Chinese farmers is the major agricultural activity, although rubber, coconuts and fruits are also produced.

Principal Agricultural Products: Rubber is the most important crop, occupying about two-thirds of the cultivated land and, along with tin, largely dominating the country's economy. Coconuts, used both for domestic food consumption and for export, oil palms, and pineapples are other important export crops. Rice, the principal food crop, is grown on 15 percent of the cultivated acreage. Other subsistence food crops widely grown include fruits, vegetables and root crops. Betel nuts, tapioca and sago are export crops of some importance.

Food Consumption Level: Daily per capita caloric intake is estimated at 2,500 calories, one of the highest levels found in Southeast Asia. Grains make up slightly more than half of the total, while other important components are coconut products, sugar, root crops, vegetables, and fruits. Meat, fish, and dairy product consumption is fairly low but is higher than in many countries of the area.

Degree of Self-Sufficiency in Food: About 40 percent of Malaya's food requirements are imported. Rice imports in 1955 totaled almost 550,000 metric tons and accounted for more than half of total consumption. Other important food imports are wheat flour, sugar, fresh fruits, and condensed milk. Singapore Island produces about enough pork, eggs and poultry products for local consumption but significant quantities of eggs are imported for the Federation.

Agricultural Policy: Malaya's agricultural policy is directed toward improving the output and quality of the principal export crops and increasing domestic food production. In addition much emphasis is being placed on a program to diversify agriculture in an effort to lessen the country's economic dependence on rubber and tin. The Government has been experimenting with cacao for several years and has now started a program of commercial plantings with the hope that this will be a profitable crop. A rubber replanting scheme using high-yielding varieties aims at enabling the crop to compete more effectively with synthetic and other natural rubber producers. An extensive program to increase rice production is under way in an effort to lessen dependence on imports. Increased production of coconuts, palm oil, pineapples, tea, tapioca, fruits and livestock products are other goals set for the country's agriculture.

Agricultural Trade: Rubber is Malaya's most important export commodity, accounting for 56 percent of the foreign exchange earnings in 1955. Other important exports are coconut oil, palm oil, and canned pineapple. The most important agricultural imports are food products including rice, wheat flour, sugar, condensed milk, and fresh fruits.

Singapore is a free port and for many years has served as a collecting, processing, and reshipping point for agricultural products produced in many of the nearby islands of the area. Principal items imported and processed or re-exported include crude rubber, copra, pepper, tea, and coffee.

United States imports of Malayan agricultural products (principally rubber) far exceed our exports to Malaya. Although Malaya imports substantial quantities of products which are in surplus in the United States, preferential tariffs, import licenses, exchange controls and high freight rates combine to effectively limit our sales of agricultural products in the country.

United States--Malayan Trade 1955

U. S. Exports to Malaya

U. S. Imports from Malaya

-----1,000 dollars-----

Fruits, fresh, dried and canned	1,377	Rubber, crude	130,498
Grain and cereal prep.	485	Pepper	3,347
Canned vegetables	324	Gums	1,134
Other agricultural	1,930	Other agricultural	409
Total agricultural	4,116	Total agricultural	135,388
Total all commodities	35,217	Total all commodities	234,108

N E P A L

Area and Location: Nepal is an independent kingdom lying northeast of India along the southern slope of the Himalaya Mountains. It is approximately 100 miles wide and 500 miles long, covering an area of 56,000 square miles, which is about the size of the State of Wisconsin.

Population: Nepal's population is estimated at eight and a half million. Approximately two-thirds of the people live in the hill and mountainous areas, the remaining one-third in the level Gangetic Plain area bordering India, known as the Terai. More than ninety percent of the people are engaged in agriculture.

Acreage Under Cultivation: It is estimated that fourteen percent of the total area is now cultivated, with possibly two-thirds of this area lying in the Terai region bordering India. The land is intensively cultivated, particularly where bench-like terraces literally cover the slopes of the hills to the tops.

Principal Agricultural Products: It is estimated that of the cultivated land approximately 55 percent is in rice, 20 percent in corn and millet, 10 percent in wheat, 6 percent in potatoes, 5 percent in oilseeds, 3 percent in tobacco, and 1 percent in jute. In addition, sugarcane, buckwheat and vegetables are grown. With minor exceptions there have been few recent improvements in crop production methods. Field work is done with crude hand tools. Only in parts of the Terai and in a few places in the hills are oxen and water buffaloes used as beasts of burden.

The total livestock population of Nepal is estimated at 7 million head, of which 30 percent are cows, 26 percent are oxen, 17 percent buffaloes, 25 percent sheep and goats, and 2 percent hogs. In addition there are 14 million chickens and ducks. They produce a limited amount of milk, mutton, hides, eggs, and wool, but in general they are unproductive. The cow is considered sacred and is not slaughtered for food.

Food Consumption: Foodgrains, principally rice, make up the great bulk of the total caloric intake of the average Nepalese. In general, the people do not have an adequate diet in either quantity or quality.

Development Programs: The Government recently announced a \$50 million Five-Year Plan to develop the country and open it up to modern industry and trade. First priority is being given to creating more adequate means of communication. Village and agricultural development are being planned on a community basis to irrigate more land and increase yields. Also health, educational, and industrial projects are being started.

It is expected that half the cost of the Five-Year Plan will be met from local resources and half from aid supplied by member countries of the Colombo Plan (including the United States). During the three years 1951-54 India supplied 61 percent of the total expended for development, the United States 13 percent, and Nepal 26 percent.

Foreign Trade: Nepal's total foreign trade is small. However, the country is now dependent on India for processed agricultural commodities and other consumer goods, foremost among which are India-made cotton textiles, salt, tobacco products, petroleum products, and metal goods. In return Nepal exports to India rice, other grains, ghee (clarified butter), jute, linseed, mustard, rapeseed and wood.

United States--Nepalese trade is inconsequential.

NEW GUINEA

A United Nations Trustee Territory under the administration of Australia, New Guinea is comprised of the area known as northeast New Guinea and adjacent islands, New Britain, Admiralty Islands, and the Solomon Islands.

Total Population: Total population for 1955 has been estimated at 1,254,000 people. Non-indigenous population totaled 12,500. Of this number 9,000 consisted of Europeans, 2,000 non-Europeans (chiefly Chinese) and 1,500 other nationalities. The natives are of two groups--Melanesian and Papuan, with Negritos tribes inhabiting certain mountain areas.

Land Use: Total area 93,000 square miles with about 2 percent of this total owned by non-native inhabitants and 98 percent either owned or reserved for the natives. Of this total area only 9 percent is utilized in some form of agriculture and only 0.4 percent is actually devoted to crops. Forest lands are estimated at 70 percent of the total area; lands used for public purposes and urban development, 0.5 percent; and undeveloped land, 20 percent.

New Guinea's climate is monsoonal and tropical. Rainfall is heavy and most of the surface drainage poor, accounting for extensive swamps over most of the terrain. The greater part of the inland mountainous sections are covered with shallow, heavily leached soils unfavorable to agricultural development. The native ownership of land is protected through legislation of the Administrative Authority (the Commonwealth of Australia). Grants of freehold estates are no longer authorized--all land grants now being restricted to leaseholds. Freehold titles to land can only be transferred by special sale and approval of the Administrative Authority.

Types and Methods of Agriculture: Three kinds of agriculture prevail: (1) Plantation--limited primarily to production by Europeans and includes such products as copra, cocoa, and coffee for export. Peanuts and passion fruit are also grown. Both of these items are exported and peanuts are also utilized as a foodstuff for the native population. (2) Cash-cropping by the Natives has been particularly encouraged and assisted by the Australian Government in postwar years. Much of this type of farming has been combined with native subsistence farming. The principal commodities produced for commercial marketing as well as domestic consumption are coconuts, beans, rice, and passion fruit. Cacao and coffee are now also produced by the natives in exportable quantities. (3) Bush-fallow--a rotational form of farming combined with subsistence small-plot gardening which provides the bulk of native food supplies and is the most widespread form of native agriculture. The chief crops produced are root types such as yams and sweet potatoes, with sago, taro, coconuts, banyans, papaws, cassava, maize, beans, and other vegetables grown.

Food consumption: Native subsistence agriculture, fishing and hunting produce most of the food for the native population. The native diet is comprised of sago, taro, yams, sweet potatoes, coconuts, bananas, papaws, cassava, corn, beans, peanuts, rice, and cucurbits. Sago is the staple food of the lowland areas bordering the major rivers. Such foods as fresh cured and canned meat,

animal fats, dairy products, flour, biscuits, pulses, fresh vegetables, sugar, canned and dried fruits, and tea are imported for the European population. Pigs are numerous in some areas but are regarded as a token of wealth and prestige, rather than a source of daily food.

Economic Situation: The economy of this Territory is based on primary production. The principal industries are agriculture, mining, and timber. The principal agricultural crop is coconuts, which are processed into copra and coconut oil, the chief export items for many years. Coconut plantations suffered severely from neglect and damage during World War II but rehabilitation of the plantations and increased native production has resulted in copra exports about equal to prewar levels in 1954 and 1955. The main mining activity has been the production of gold, which is gradually declining as the richer reserves are being worked out. Expansion of the timber industry received an impetus during World War II and prospects for the manufacture of soft plywoods are good. A large plywood mill has been established at Bulolo under joint financing of the Australian Government and private interests. Non-native private enterprise continues to undertake the main development of the territory's resources, but the native population is taking an increasing part in the Territory's economic development through establishment of cooperatives and rural progress societies.

Agricultural Policy: The development program for the Territory emphasizes the adoption of improved agricultural methods for the natives with the aim of increasing domestic production and nutritional standards as well as increased production of export commodities. The local Department of Agriculture is encouraging native growers by the enlargement of research programs and extension services. Attention is also being given to improvement of agricultural processing and marketing facilities. Copra is exported under the provisions of long-term agreements between the United Kingdom and Australia for the entire amount of New Guinea's exportable surplus, after domestic and Australian requirements are met. Prices are fixed under the agreement until the end of 1957.

Trade: Australia provides a ready market for most of New Guinea's agricultural exports, especially copra, cocoa, peanuts, and timber items. The Territory is accorded preferential tariff treatment by Australia. Australia's lowest duty rates apply to the Territory's exports--and often consist of special rates lower than British preferential tariffs. Items admitted "free" are copra, cocoa beans, coffee, and peanuts. Since 1953, import restrictions have been relaxed on all imports excepting those from dollar areas and Japan. Formal application is still required for import licenses. No preferences are provided for in the New Guinea Customs Tariff. In 1955 the bulk of New Guinea's exports, valued at £9 million, were split almost half and half between the United Kingdom and Australia.

United States -- New Guinea Trade 1954 and 1955

U. S. exports to New Guinea

-----thousand dollars-----

	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Cattle for breeding	6.9	--
Vegetable preparations	.5	--
Soybean oil cake and meal	--	<u>2.0</u>
Total agricultural	<u>7.4</u>	<u>2.0</u>
Other	<u>1,504.0</u>	<u>1,148.0</u>
Grand total	<u>1,511.4</u>	<u>1,150.0</u>

U. S. imports from New Guinea

-----thousand dollars-----

	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Nutmegs, unground	1.0	1.0
Oilcake and meal, coconut or copra	132.0	104.0
Wool	6.0	--
Hides and skins	<u>5.0</u>	<u>13.0</u>
Total agricultural	<u>144.0</u>	<u>118.0</u>
Other	<u>563.0</u>	<u>396.0</u>
Grand total	707.0	514.0

N E W Z E A L A N D

Farm Population: Approximately 44 percent of the total population reside in rural areas, while 17 percent of the total working force of 800,000 are engaged in agriculture. Total population was estimated at 2.1 million in 1955.

Land Use: Total area 103,736 square miles or about the size of the State of Colorado. All crop land (including orchards) occupies about 2 percent of the total land area. Cultivated pastures represent 27 percent of total area; unimproved pastures, 32 percent; forests, 24 percent; and other land, 15 percent. The agricultural area is estimated at 43 million acres or 65 percent of the total.

Type of Agriculture: Primarily a livestock economy. Dairying is the predominate agricultural activity, which is highly developed and mechanized in comparison with other countries. Because of the pastoral agriculture, farms tend to be larger than in most countries, averaging more than 400 acres, although farms in the main dairy districts are smaller and average about 250 acres. Aside from extensive pasture areas, the principal crops include wheat, oats, barley, grass seeds, pulses and root crops, chiefly potatoes and turnips.

Food Consumption Levels: Estimated at about 3,400 calories per person per day. This rate of consumption is about 4 percent above prewar and makes New Zealand one of the highest per capita food consuming nations in the world. Approximately 50 percent of the diet consists of meats, dairy products and their derivatives.

Agricultural Policy: Government objective is to encourage increased agricultural output of three basic export items: wool, meat, and dairy products. This objective provides for sufficient production to meet domestic needs for an expanding population, as well as for increased exports. Agricultural production maintained through government direct and indirect subsidy programs. Wheat growers receive direct subsidies in a government effort to increase production and lessen dependence on imports. Livestock producers are also paid transport subsidies for lime and other fertilizers used on pastures.

Practically all agricultural products other than wool are marketed through quasi-government marketing boards in conjunction with cooperatives. These boards regulate the marketing of the major agricultural commodities and administer government guaranteed minimum prices to producers in the marketing of such commodities as dairy products, fruits, meats and potatoes (beginning as of the 1956-57 season).

New Zealand-continued

A levy on exports during periods of relatively high prices provides funds for deficiency payments to producers when market prices fall below the cost of production. Subsidies are also maintained by the Government to keep retail prices of certain basic food items in line with guaranteed prices to producers. Principal food items so subsidized are butter, milk, bread, flour, and eggs. Wool is sold at auction but prices of this commodity are also supported by established floor levels. Actual marketing of export items is handled by commissions.

Economic Situation: Agriculture contributes about one-third of New Zealand's gross national income, while exports of dairy products, meat, and wool account for approximately 90 percent of total export revenue. Inflationary tendencies and full employment in recent months have caused the Government to adopt a program of higher interest rates and restricted capital availabilities in an effort to obtain a more favorable balance of payments situation. Agricultural production is being maintained at record levels although lowered export prices for some commodities, particularly on the U. K. market, are giving rise for some concern.

Dependence on Agricultural Imports: From a food standpoint, New Zealand is dependent on imports of certain fruits and vegetables, wheat, rice, sugar, and other tropical products. She is also dependent on imports of such raw materials as tobacco, vegetable oils and oilseeds, crude rubber, fibers, timber and naval stores.

Trade: The world's largest exporter of cheese, lamb and mutton, and second largest butter exporter. Other important agricultural exports are wool, hides and skins, animal fats, sausage casings, grass seeds, and apples. Over 70 percent of all New Zealand exports are directed to Commonwealth countries. Roughly two-thirds of all agricultural exports are consigned to the United Kingdom. Trade with the Commonwealth is maintained by a system of preferential tariffs and membership in the Sterling Area Pool. Agricultural imports from the U. S. consist primarily of tobacco, vegetable fats and oils, citrus and dried fruits, and sausage casings. Exports to the U. S. consist primarily of wool, grass seeds, hides and skins, and sausage casings.

Quantitative Controls on U. S. Agricultural Products: Although trade from dollar areas is controlled by import licensing, a trend toward relaxation of these restrictions has been noted since early 1955. Dried prunes were admitted from the U. S. without licensing in 1955, and unmanufactured tobacco and sausage casings were freed from import licenses in 1956. Tariffs are relatively high and protective of domestic production and industry, but in most instances do not constitute serious barriers to U. S. agricultural imports.

U. S. -- New Zealand Trade 1954 and 1955

U. S. exports to New Zealand

----million dollars----

	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Sausage casings	.4	.5
Fresh fruits	1/	.1
Dried fruits	.1	.3
Vegetable oils and fats, refined	1/	.09
Seeds, field & garden	.2	.2
Tobacco	5.4	6.1
Other	.7	.5
Total agricultural	6.8	7.8
Other	35.6	43.7
Grand total	<u>42.4</u>	<u>51.5</u>

U. S. imports from New Zealand

----million dollars----

	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Meats	.5	.7
Sausage casings	2.0	1.9
Casein	1.0	1.5
Butter	.2	.2
Cheese, cheddar	.6	.5
Hides and skins	13.1	10.1
Wool	22.0	22.8
Seeds, exc. oilseeds	1.0	.1
Other	4.3	1.7
Total agricultural	44.7	39.5
Other	.8	3.4
Grand total	<u>45.5</u>	<u>42.9</u>

P A K I S T A N

Area: Pakistan is divided into two parts--East and West Pakistan--which are separated from one another not only by a thousand miles of Indian territory but also by marked differences in soils, climate, language, and culture. The total area of 365,907 square miles is equal to the combined areas of Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. East Pakistan comprises 54,501 square miles and West Pakistan 311,406 square miles.

Population: About 90 percent of the population totaling some 80 million is engaged in agriculture.

Acreage Under Cultivation: About 31 million acres or 70 percent of the area of East Pakistan is under cultivation, but due to the rugged terrain and arid climate in West Pakistan only about 20 million acres or 13 percent is cultivated. About 83 percent of the cultivated land is in food crops for domestic consumption. Farmers, about 70 percent of which are tenants, generally till less than 5 acres, using oxen and primitive wooden plows. Due to the density of population and resulting pressure on the land, all suitable land is cultivated but yields are low. Production could be expanded through use of fertilizers and better farming practices, and also by expansion of irrigation.

Principal Agricultural Products: Rice covers 44 percent of the cultivated area; wheat 27 percent; pulses, principally chickpeas, 8 percent; cotton and jute, the principal export crops, 10 percent. Other important crops are oilseeds, millet, grain sorghum, sugarcane. Ninety percent of the rice is produced in East Pakistan but West Pakistan produces 99 percent of the wheat.

Food Consumption: The level of food consumption is one of the lowest in the world and consists largely of grains. Very little meat, vegetables or dairy products are available. The country is about self-sufficient in good years, but drought required heavy foodgrain imports in six of the past nine years.

Agricultural Policy: The country's policy is strongly protectionist. Rigid controls over imports are discriminatory against the dollar area. Export duties are maintained on cotton and jute, and minimum price formulas and acreage controls are used. Also, rationing and government monopoly over sales of scarce food supplies. The Five Year Plan (1955-60) calls for expansion of irrigation facilities and growing more food and cotton. New land is to be brought under cultivation and per acre yields increased.

Foreign Trade: Cotton and jute account for about three-fourths of exports. Hides, skins, wool, and tea account for most of the remainder. Agricultural imports are mostly tobacco, sugar, and vegetable oils, but heavy wheat imports are necessary when the domestic crop is short. China and Japan are the principal export markets for cotton; India, and the United Kingdom for jute.

United States--Pakistan Trade, 1955

U. S. Exports to Pakistan

U. S. Imports from Pakistan

----1,000 dollars----

Total All Commodities	54,597	Total All Commodities	29,640
Total Agricultural	16,410	Total Agricultural	27,199
Dairy products	1,667	Hides and skins	2,489
Cotton, unmanufactured	3,144	Wool	9,197
Cottonseed oil	3,774	Cotton, unmanufactured	2,180
Tobacco flue-cured	2,340	Jute and jute butts	12,348
Food for relief or charity	4,160	Other agricultural	985
Other agricultural	1,325		

P A P U A

Total and farm population: Total population estimated at 495,000 as of June 1954. Non-native population--chiefly British--totaled over 6,000. Majority of natives are engaged in village agriculture and reside in rural areas. Although prewar census enumerations inadequate for estimates, native population 1954 statistics would indicate considerable increases in native inhabitants; number of Europeans and other non-natives three and a half times greater than prewar. It is estimated that about 25,000 natives, or about 5 percent of the total population, are employed in non-agricultural pursuits.

Land use: Total area is 90,600 square miles. Of this total 87,806 square miles consist of mainland and 2,794 square miles of adjacent islands. The Territory of Papua, completely tropical, is subject to monsoonal climate conditions and comprises the southeastern portion of the Island of New Guinea east of Netherlands New Guinea. It includes the Tobriand, Woodlark, D'Entrecasteaux and Louisiade Islands. No statistics are available of land utilized by natives in subsistence-crop farming but the area is believed to be quite sizable. 207,000 acres are allocated to plantations or farms operated by Europeans. Of this area approximately 62,000 acres are in crops and fallow, 3,000 acres improved lands, and 1,000 acres of established pastures, while the remainder consists of forests and undeveloped land areas. A Native Land Registration Ordinance passed in 1952 protects the rights of natives to vested interests in the land. Only 2 million acres of a total area of 58 million is considered as Crown land or owned in fee simple by the non-native population.

Type of agriculture and principal products: Papuan agriculture consists of two types--plantation and subsistence. The main products produced are copra, rubber, vegetables, fruit, cocoa, coffee, rice, and peanuts. Plantations vary in size from 300 to 2,000 acres. No estimates have been made of the size of native holdings.

Food consumption: Native population consumes self-produced foods, namely fruits and vegetables such as yams, taro, sweet potatoes, corn, sugarcane, cassava, sago, beans, peanuts, rice, cucurbits, bananas, pawpaws, and coconuts. Sago is the staple food, especially in the river valley districts. Meat and dairy products are consumed to some extent by the natives but, as most of the supplies of these items are subject to importation, the bulk of meat and dairy products are consumed by the non-native population. No estimates of per capita consumption are available for Papua.

Economic situation: Economy based on agriculture. Bulk of native population engaged in growing subsistence food crops but more and more natives are beginning to take an interest in the marketing economy of the country. This trend has been encouraged by formation of cooperatives and rural progress societies. Approximately 20 percent of copra exports now represents production of indigenous inhabitants. Production of export crops such as copra, rubber, cocoa, and coffee pretty largely dominated by European production on plantations.

Agricultural policy: The Territory's Administrative Government under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth of Australia has formulated agricultural development programs of assistance to the natives during the postwar years in an effort to develop agriculture and the general improvement of the country's economy. Creation of extension and research programs, establishment of experimental stations, and adoption of higher marketing standards are some of the techniques being employed to develop greater native interest in the production of crops for export such as copra, cocoa, rubber, tea, and coffee.

Programs are also being considered for a larger and better production of rice, kenaf fibers, peanuts, and improvement of livestock. Copra is marketed under the facilities of the Papua and New Guinea Copra Marketing Board. Export market and price guarantees to copra producers have been maintained by a long-term agreement between the United Kingdom and Australia which is scheduled to expire in 1957.

Trade: The bulk of the foreign trade is consigned to and originates from Australia, without licensing; while both Papua and New Guinea enjoy free customs treatment on exports to Australia. Only small amounts of agricultural items are exported directly to the United States, while manufactured imports from the U. S. and the U. K. each account for 7 percent of total imports. Since late 1953 import restrictions have been relaxed with respect to all countries except dollar areas and Japan.

P H I L I P P I N E S

Population: The Republic of the Philippines had an estimated population of 21,800,000 people in 1955, of whom about 70 percent were engaged in or dependent on agriculture for a living. Present consumption level is about 2,200 calories per day per person.

Land Use: Total land area--115,000 square miles. In 1951 farm land was placed at 22,000 square miles or 19 percent of total area, while an additional 25 percent was classed as potential agricultural lands. Forests cover about 61,000 square miles or 53 percent of the country. In 1954 the area planted to crops (including tree crops and double cropping) totaled 15.9 million acres. Land use is most intensive in Luzon but substantial land reserves still exist in the less densely populated southern islands.

Type of Agriculture: Agriculture in the Philippines is characterized by small subsistence-type farms, with the average size of farms totaling less than 10 acres. About 53 percent of all farms are owner-operated, while part-owners account for an additional 10 percent. About three-fourths of the cultivated area is planted to subsistence food crops, and one-fourth is planted to commercial crops primarily for export. Carabaos and cattle are used almost exclusively for power. Dairying is very limited. Production of meat animals (mostly hogs) and poultry is increasing but output is still relatively low.

Principal Agricultural Products: The most important agricultural crops and approximate percentage of total planted area are rice--45 percent; corn--17 percent; coconut--15 percent; sugarcane--4 percent; abaca or manila hemp--4 percent; and fruits, vegetables and root crops--12 percent. Tobacco is also important and output is increasing.

Degree of Self-Sufficiency: Except for relatively small quantities of rice imported to maintain stocks for distribution in case of local shortages, the Philippines are self-sufficient in rice and corn, the principal food-grains. The 1956 milled rice production is placed at 2.1 million metric tons. Substantial quantities of wheat flour are imported, and about 90 percent of the dairy products consumed are imported. Other foods imported are meats, fish, coffee and cacao. Large export surpluses of sugar, copra, coconut oil, and manila hemp are produced. Until 1956 the Philippines have imported large quantities of tobacco for cigarette production but local production has increased to such an extent that further imports are unlikely.

Agricultural Policy: Agricultural policy is aimed at achieving self-sufficiency, particularly in rice and tobacco production. Other goals are increased output of livestock products and subsistence food crops, as well as expanded production and improved quality of the principal export crops. The vitally important agricultural export part of the economy is geared to the United States market as a result of long years of free trade as a dependent territory. In the past U. S. imports from the Philippines and Philippine imports from the U. S. have entered duty free.

Beginning January 1, 1956 the tariffs of each country are to be gradually imposed upon imports from the other, reaching the full rate in 1974. Under the terms of the revised trade agreement signed in 1955, the Philippine rates are to be increased more rapidly than the U. S. rates. Many Philippine producers fear open competition on the world market because production costs in the Islands are said to be higher than in neighboring countries. All imports are subject to government control.

One of President Magsaysay's primary goals has been that of improving conditions in rural areas. Some progress has been made, particularly in making agricultural credit at reasonable rates available to farmers, and in improved marketing facilities through cooperative organizations. Also tenancy conditions have been improved and resettlement and land redistribution schemes are being implemented.

Trade: Major Philippine exports are sugar, copra and coconut products, manila hemp, and tobacco. The Philippines was America's largest source of supply in Asia for agricultural imports in 1955, furnishing 99 percent of our copra imports, 73 percent of our Manila hemp imports, and 26 percent of our total sugar imports. The Philippines is also important as the largest single market for United States exports of dairy products, particularly evaporated milk.

United States--Philippine Trade in Agricultural Products, 1955

<u>U. S. Exports to Philippines</u>		<u>U. S. Imports from Philippines</u>	
-----millions of U. S. dollars-----			
Wheat flour	10.2	Sugar	109.1
Cotton, unmanufactured	2.2	Copra	45.2
Tobacco, unmanufactured	11.4	Coconut oil	16.3
Evaporated milk & other dairy products	20.9	Shredded coconut	12.1
Canned meats	2.9	Copra cake and meal	2.4
Fruits and vegetables	4.4	Abaca fiber (hemp)	8.0
Tallow	1.0	Pineapples, canned; juice, etc.	5.4
Other agricultural products	7.0	Peanuts	1.6
		Tobacco	0.7
		Other agricultural products	1.4
		o	
Total agricultural	60.0	Total agricultural	202.2
Total all commodities	338.4	Total all commodities	251.5

T A I W A N (Formosa)

Farm Population: About 65 percent of total population of approximately 10,000,000.

Land Use: Total area about 13,800 square miles, about the size of Massachusetts and Connecticut combined. Some 2,157,000 acres, or 24 percent of the total area, are under cultivation. Fifty percent of the total area is in forest, and 26 percent in other uses. Double and triple cropping are prevalent; planted area normally exceeds cultivated area by 35 to 40 percent. About 60 percent of the cultivated area is in irrigated paddy fields. About two-thirds of the planted area is devoted to rice, 10 percent to sweet potatoes, 10 percent to sugarcane, and 3 percent to tea.

Type of Agriculture: Emphasis is on the production of food crops, of which rice is by far the most important. Yields are lower than those obtained in Japan, but are high compared to other areas of the Far East. Two crops of rice are generally grown each year, and on some of the land a third crop is grown. Farms are small--slightly less than three acres--and frequently consist of numerous scattered fields. Hand labor methods prevail in agricultural production. Livestock is relatively unimportant.

Principal Agricultural Products: Rice is easily the most important single crop of Taiwan. Sweet potatoes are next in importance in terms of area. Sugarcane, tea, and bananas are important export crops.

Food Consumption: Per capita food consumption in Taiwan ranks about the highest in the Far East--approximately 2,400 calories per day. Four-fifths of the diet consists of starchy foods. Consumption of meat is higher than in Japan, but that of fish, eggs, and milk is lower.

Dependence on Imports of Agricultural Products: By and large Taiwan is self-sufficient in food; imports of wheat and soybeans tend to be offset by exports of rice. About four-fifths of the total sugar output is exported. Nearly all of Taiwan's cotton requirements are imported.

Trade: Major imports are raw cotton, wheat, and soybeans. Lesser amounts of dairy products, tobacco, hides, and tallow are imported. These have come principally from the United States, to a large extent in the form of aid. About 90 percent of all exports consist of agricultural products, of which sugar is by far most important. Rice, tea, bananas, pineapples, and citronella oil are next in importance. Agricultural exports amount to about 15 percent of production, and are roughly equal in value to agricultural imports.

Agricultural Policy: The basic objective of agricultural policy is to make Taiwan as nearly self-supporting as possible. Under the land reform program, the proportion of farmers who own all the land they cultivate has been increased to 85 percent of all farm operators. For those who continue to rent, the burden of rental payments has been much reduced and the conditions and length of tenure have been made more favorable.

In order to maintain a cheap and abundant food supply, the Government provides various subsidies to agriculture. Little opportunity remains to expand the cultivated area. Therefore attention is given largely to technical and managerial assistance that may result in increased yields and lower production costs. Reduction of costs is important in order for Taiwan to compete in world markets. The United States is contributing heavily to the technical assistance program.

United States--Taiwan Trade, 1955

United States Exports

United States Imports

----million dollars----

Cotton, unmanufactured	22.2
Wheat	12.4
Soybeans	10.9
Tallow	2.1
Tobacco	1.8
Dairy products	1.6
Other	4.9

Tea	1.5
Citronella oil	1.1
Feathers	0.9
Other	1.3

Total agricultural	55.9
Total all commodities	105.4
Percent agricultural	53.1

Total agricultural	4.8
Total all commodities	6.1
Percent agricultural	79.6

T H A I L A N D

Population: Thailand has an estimated population of approximately 20.3 million, most of whom are Thai--racially related to the Lao, the Shans of Burma and to the people of the Yunnan Province of South China. Agriculture, directed mainly towards the production of food crops, provides employment for about 85 percent of the population. The greatest concentration of the population is in the Central Plain.

Land Use: Of the total land area of 126.5 million acres, approximately 60 percent or 75 million acres are covered by forest. Twenty million acres are cultivated. Agriculture is dominated by small-scale peasant farming with average size holdings of about 6 acres. Rice accounts for 92 percent of the cropped area and extends to all geographic regions of the country.

Principal Products: Thailand can truly be called a rice mono-culture, since this one crop so completely overshadows all others. Only in the southern peninsular regions where rubber is of first importance does rice yield its pre-eminence to another crop. In addition to rice, Thailand produces exportable surpluses of corn, peanuts, sesame, mung beans, soybeans, cassava starch, castor beans, and kapok. The principal crops cultivated for domestic consumption are sugarcane, cotton, and tobacco, none of which are grown in sufficient quantities. There is no dairying and little livestock is raised for meat. However, livestock are important as a source of draught power.

Degree of Self-Sufficiency: Thailand's crop production is sufficient to supply a liberal food supply for the population and to provide a large rice surplus for export. Substantial quantities of sugar and cotton (mostly manufactured) are imported. The Thai Tobacco Monopoly imports about 6.6 million pounds of United States tobacco each year for blending with locally produced leaf to improve the quality of its better grades of cigarettes. In an effort to meet domestic needs sugarcane acreage is being expanded.

Manufacturing is small-scale and confined chiefly to the processing of agricultural commodities and the fabrication of a few products for domestic consumption. Rice milling is by far the most important industry. There are a few rubber factories, tobacco processing plants, a cement plant, and textile mills.

Agricultural Policy: The Government of Thailand recognizes the need to increase agricultural production, and policies are being directed toward that end. Development plans cover a wide range of activities including irrigation, rice breeding, fertilizer use, plant-pest control, sericulture, sticklac, rubber, cotton, and other upland crops. A program for developing pastures and for increasing livestock and meat production is getting under way.

Certain adjustments in export licensing, pricing, and taxing policies are being contemplated in order to provide economic incentives to farmers. Efforts have been made to maintain the internal price of rice at a low level in order to keep down the cost of living and also provide a greater profit for government rice exports.

Trade: For the past several years Thailand has exported an average of about 1,300,000 metric tons of milled rice per year, mostly to neighboring Far Eastern countries. Rice shipments in the past few years have accounted for about half of the total value of all exports, and rubber one-fifth to one-third. The United States is now importing virtually all of Thailand's current rubber production. Thai imports of agricultural products are small, and consist of such items as wheat flour, canned milk, sugar, tobacco, and jute.

United States--Thailand Trade in Agricultural Products, 1955

U. S. Exports to Thailand

U. S. Imports from Thailand

---million dollars---

Grains and preparations	0.1	Tapioca flour and cassava	1.9
Tallow	0.3	Kapok	0.5
Tobacco, flue-cured	6.5	Rubber, crude	87.2
Flavoring and coloring syrup	0.5	Other agricultural	0.7
Other agricultural	<u>0.7</u>		
Total agricultural	8.1	Total agricultural	96.3
Total all commodities	49.9	Total all commodities	104.5

V I E T N A M

Population: Population statistics for Vietnam are not reliable. Government estimates place the total population at roughly 25 million, 12 million south of the 7th parallel and 13 million north of this line. Most of the people are Vietnamese, the largest foreign group being Chinese--who number about a million. Agriculture, principally rice and rubber growing, provide a livelihood for about 90 percent of the population. The remaining 10 percent of the population depend on fishing, mining, forestry and the processing of these products for their support.

Land Use: South Vietnam covers an area of roughly 66,000 square miles and North Vietnam an area of 60,000 square miles, making a total land area of 126,000 square miles. The total area under permanent cultivation in Vietnam cannot be given for lack of detailed regional data. In the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (Communist) paddy land covers a maximum of 4.3 million acres and a minimum of 3.9 million acres. In the free State of Vietnam maximum paddy land is placed at 7 million acres and the minimum area at 6 million acres. In North Vietnam corn accounted for 5.3 percent of the total planted area in 1942-43. In South Vietnam corn is of much less importance.

Principal Products: Rice production in 1955-56 in South Vietnam is expected to be about 4,600 million pounds rough rice, about equal to the previous year, but still roughly 35 percent below the prewar, 1935-39 average. Rubber is the second crop in importance and corn, kapok, tobacco, tea, and pepper are of lesser importance. Livestock animals are primarily used for draft purposes. Cattle are used to a minor degree for meat and milk.

Degree of Self-Sufficiency: Farming is mostly of a subsistence nature. Southern Vietnam is characterized by large landholdings, absentee landlords, tenants, and landless agricultural laborers. In North Vietnam there is a superabundance of manpower, great scarcity of land, and almost complete lack of capital equipment. In free Vietnam farming is to a large extent geared to commercial production and there are exportable surpluses of rice. The food situation in the State of Vietnam, particularly in South Vietnam, seems to be better than in the D. R. Vietnam territory. Given customary living standards prevailing in Indochina, South Vietnam appears to be a surplus area capable of exporting food and still affording higher consumption levels to its population.

Agricultural Policy: The Government of Vietnam is making a great effort to improve the economy of the country. Credit is being given through the National Investment Fund, which has been established to assist in developing the economy of the country. Efforts are being made to develop mountain regions and agricultural programs are directed towards rehabilitation of newly liberated areas, land reform, and the organization of agricultural credit.

Trade: Rubber and rice exports have represented 42 and 39 percent of total exports in 1954. Dried fish, rawhides, spices, kapok, and pulses have also been important in export trade. Imports consist primarily of foods and manufactured goods, France being the major trading partner.

United States--Vietnam trade data are not available. United States data are recorded as trade for the customs' union of the three former French Indochina States. The major part of Vietnamese shipments to the United States has been rubber, but there have been some shipments of nux vomica, hides and skins, feathers, and spices. The principal imports from the United States included raw cotton, vehicles and parts, machinery, and tobacco.

W E S T E R N S A M O A

Administered by New Zealand under the terms of a UN Trusteeship, the Territory of Western Samoa is largely composed of two islands, Savai'i and Upolu. The islands, of volcanic origin and surrounded by coral reef, are situated about 1,900 miles northeast of New Zealand.

Total and Farm Population: As of the last census in 1951, the population of the Territory approximated 85,000. Of this number 80,000 were Samoans and the remainder European and Chinese extraction. No complete statistics are available as to the farm population, but it is estimated that about 15,000 are engaged in plantation agriculture, while a large proportion of the Samoans are either directly or indirectly engaged in agricultural production of products for export or food items for domestic consumption.

Land Use: The total area is 1,133 square miles or slightly larger than the State of Rhode Island. Approximately 126,000 acres or 17 percent of the total area is utilized in some form of agriculture; 76 percent consists of forest lands and 7 percent, lava or unproductive land. Nearly all the land utilized for agriculture is near the coastal regions as the inland areas of both islands are highlands and at present undeveloped. Actually, only a small proportion of the farm land is cultivable and plantation areas are also utilized as pastures.

Type of Agriculture and Principal Agricultural Products: Three types of agricultural production exist in Samoa:

- (a) Village farming carried on exclusively by Samoans on a subsistence basis, which accounts for practically all crop production consumed locally, as well as livestock and dairying. This type of production overlaps with commercial crop production in that the villages also produce some cocoa, copra, and bananas for export.
- (b) Plantation agriculture--controlled almost entirely by Europeans. Some estates are managed by the New Zealand Reparation Estates as large-scale business enterprises, but the majority of the plantations are operated by individuals.
- (c) Mission and institutional farming--crops produced are similar to village agriculture with the exception of small quantities of bamboo produced.

Only slightly more than 1,000 pounds of rubber was produced in Western Samoa in 1955, but many hundreds of acres of rubber trees are being maintained for the recommencement of large-scale production as soon as rubber tapping again becomes profitable. The principal crops now produced for export are copra, cocoa, and bananas.

Food Consumption: No information is available as to the per capita consumption of food on an overall regional basis. The main diet of the Samoans consists of coconuts, taro, ta'amu, breadfruit, sugar and molasses (from sugarcane), yams, manioc and various tropical fruits. Small amounts of meat and poultry are also consumed but the small dairy production is consumed by the European elements of the population. Only small amounts of fish are consumed and the Samoan diet is considered deficient in protein elements.

Economic Situation: The economy of Western Samoa is almost completely agricultural. While the domestic economy of the Samoans in the villages continues to supply the inhabitants with most of the necessities of life, rising standards of living and growth in population are giving rise to a greater dependence upon more modern internal trading and commercial marketing systems to maintain today's economy. Signs of increasing strain in the present economic structure are becoming evident, and many Samoans openly suggest that economically at least, the village family system needs considerable modification if it is to successfully answer the challenge of one of the highest birth rates in the world. A recognized problem is the difficulty of further diversifying the economy of this Territory, which is lacking in minerals and poor in forest reserves and fisheries.

Agricultural Policy: Copra marketing is handled solely by a monopoly, the Copra Marketing Board, which administers all functions in the export of copra to the United Kingdom under the terms of a nine-year bulk purchase arrangement effective through 1957. Fixed contract prices to producers are maintained under the terms of this agreement. The New Zealand Reparation Estates, a semi-official government organization, operates numerous agricultural projects in the Territory directed toward better production and marketing methods in an effort to promote efficiency among the Samoan producers. In addition to plantation estates, they maintain large livestock breeding enterprises and own more than two-thirds of the country's total cattle numbers.

The New Zealand and Territory Governments have collaborated in programs aimed toward eradication of crop diseases and insect damage. They are also cooperating in programs of experimental research and encouraging the growth of cooperatives, which is a relatively new development in Western Samoa.

Dependence on Imports of Agricultural Products: The principal items imported are sugar, canned and cured meat, apples, dried and canned fruits, flour and feedstuffs.

Trade: The bulk of Western Samoa's exports are destined for the United Kingdom, while New Zealand and Australia provide the chief import sources. The main export item to the United States is cocoa, which in 1954 approximated about one million dollars in value. In return the U. S. supplies this Territory with cotton piece goods, other textiles, machinery, and motor vehicles, while agricultural exports, if any, are negligible.

Import restrictions are maintained in order to conserve foreign exchange as a member of the sterling bloc, and a system of licenses and quotas is maintained on all imports from hard currency countries and Japan, as well as on wheat and flour imported under the provisions of the International Wheat Agreement. Export permits are required for all exports as a matter of routine administration.

